

KCTCS GOOD NEWS REPORT

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APRIL 2016



ARTISTIC ENDEAVOR

WEST KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE OPENS NEW BUILDING FOR PADUCAH SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) celebrated the opening of its newest building for the Paducah School of Art and Design (PSAD) on March 31. The event featured catering by WKCTC culinary students and music by Straight Up Lonesome, a band that includes students from Hazard Community and Technical College's Kentucky School of Bluegrass and Traditional Music.

All of PSAD's 2D programs are located in the historic 30,000 square-foot 2D and Graphic Design Building, which is adjacent to the Ceramics/Small Metals and Sculpture buildings in Lower Town. The building houses computer labs for Visual Communications, Multimedia and Digital Photography along with a fully equipped photo studio. Additionally, the building houses painting and drawing studios, a library/reading room, 2D Design studio, conference room, recording studio, lecture hall, the 1,600 square-foot Bill Ford Gallery and other public spaces.

ABOVE: The 2D and Graphic Design Building, a historic structure formerly known as Kitchen's Inc., was donated to WKCTC by the city of Paducah. The 32,228-square foot building houses an art gallery and studios for drawing, digital photography, graphic design and multimedia. The building will also be home to the Kitchen's Café, which will host guest chefs and a culinary arts series.



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The bistro style Kitchen's Café is also located on the property, which was originally named the Kitchen's, Inc. Building. The building has a long history and has been used for buggy manufacturing, building batteries and cabinet making. Kitchen's Café will provide dining, catering and educational experiences under the umbrella of WKCTC's culinary arts program. Facility rentals are available for the cafe, courtyard, and gallery, among other spaces within the building. There is onsite parking for 60 vehicles and the building is LEED's certified.

As a partner in Paducah's creative economy, WKCTC served as a catalyst for the region by opening the Paducah School of Art and Design in 2008 to stimulate tourism and the local economy.

PSAD had its beginning in temporary studios located in downtown Paducah. Shortly thereafter, WKCTC began renovation of the former Madison Hall in LowerTown. The Ceramics and Small Metals Building was beautifully repurposed in 2013 and is home to ceramics, metals, jewelry-making and 3-dimensional design classes.

ABOVE: Guests to the March 31st opening celebration of the Paducah School of Art and Design's newest building enjoyed catering by WKCTC culinary students and music by Straight Up Lonesome (Upper Right), a band that includes students from HCTC's Kentucky School of Bluegrass and Traditional Music, as well as an exhibit of work by renowned graphic designer David Carson (lower left). Dr. Box (bottom, center) addresses the crowd.

In the spring of 2013, WKCTC began the second phase of PSAD expansion with the construction of a Sculpture Building. The 7,000 square foot building, adjacent to the Ceramic and Small Metals Building, houses studios for clay, wood working, welding and metal fabrication, as well as a foundry for bronze casting. The Sculpture Building opened for classes in the fall of 2014.

With more than 300 students currently enrolled in classes, PSAD's enrollment has steadily increased since its inception. By nurturing a growing student body and attracting nationally recognized artists to workshops, the college is positioning the region to experience a renaissance rich with culture, community and economic development.

